

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 AGR-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-01

SAM-01 SAJ-01 IO-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14

USIA-04 OMB-01 CIEP-01 AF-04 ARA-10 EA-07 NEA-06

OIC-01 DRC-01 /100 W

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R 101802Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4703

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DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, PORG

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING OCTOBER 9 AND 10

REF: LONDON 13103; LONDON 13192

1. FIRST CONTRIBUTION MADE BY USDEL WAS DURING DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 4 ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING PREVIOUS DAY. US REPORTED THAT SUPERVISION OF EXPORTS WILL BE UNDERTAKEN BY GENERAL SALES MANAGER. THIS STATEMENT SATISFIED QUESTIONS BY ARGENTINE AND OTHER DELEGATES AT ASMC MEETING OCT 8. ALSO EXPLAINED WAS THE PROCEDURE WHEN UNKNOWN DESTINATIONS BECOME KNOWN.

2. ON AGENDA ITEM 5, AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE DONOVAN SAID THAT PRICE PROVISIONS ARE CENTRAL TO ANY FUTURE MECHANICS OF A NEW AGREEMENT. USDEL PUT THE US VIEW THAT IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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50S AND 60S THE PRICE STABILITY WHICH EXISTED WAS DUE TO

SUPPLY MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTION RESTRAINT BY TWO OR THREE MAJOR EXPORTERS. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE SAID ON THE SUBJECT OF SETTING UP SOME FORM OF INTERNATIONAL STOCKS PROVISION, LACK OF INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN SUCH MATTERS SHOULD BE NO BARRIER TO TRYING TO BRING SUCH A SYSTEM ABOUT. MEETING IN GENERAL STRESSED THE AMBIVALENT NATURE OF PRICE EFFECTS - BOTH INDICATIVE AND REGULATORY. MEETING GENERALLY AGREED THAT PRICE AND STOCK PROVISIONS CANNOT BE LOOKED AT IN ISOLATION. RETIRED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MOORE DESCRIBED WORK DONE BY SECRETARIAT UNDER HIS SUPERVISION ON IMPLICATIONS OF STOCKHOLDING POLICIES, DOCUMENTS EX(74/75)2/3 AND ADD.L TO 2/3. MAIN POINT TO EMERGE WAS VIEW THAT PRICE RANGE SHOULD BE FITTED TO NATURAL MARKET TRENDS AND SHOULD NOT BE AT VARIANCE WITH THEM.

3. THERE WAS NO NEED TO EMPHASIZE US VIEWS ON AGENDA ITEM 6. THE PAPERS ARE STILL SUBJECT TO VARIOUS QUESTIONS BY OTHER DELEGATES BUT THEY WILL BE COMBINED AND ABRIDGED AT SOME STAGE BEFORE SUBMITTING TO THE COUNCIL, ACCORDING TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. THERE IS STILL TIME TO DO THIS TO GIVE THREE WEEKS' STUDY OF A COMBINED PAPER BEFORE THE COUNCIL MEETS. EEC DELEGATE EATON SAID THE PAPER WAS UNBALANCED BECAUSE OF TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON ONE METHOD AND HE ASKED IF THE SECRETARIAT COULD ARRIVE AT A TECHNICAL EVALUATION ON THE COST OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS. THE SECRETARIAT SAID THAT THE EMPHASIS DISPLAYED WAS SIMPLY BECAUSE MOST DISCUSSION WAS GIVEN TO NEW, UNTRIED TECHNIQUES AND THE SECRETARIAT IS NOT NECESSARILY ATTRACTED TO ANY ONE METHOD.

4. ON AGENDA ITEM 7, MOST DISCUSSION CENTERED ON THE PROSPECT OF THE CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS IN NOVEMBER. BOTH EEC AND CANADIAN DELEGATES SAID EARLY 1975 WAS THE MOST OPTIMISTIC DATE WHICH, IN THEIR OPINION, WOULD BE PRACTICABLE. CANADA BELIEVED THAT A CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER WILL BE PREMATURE. AFTER SOME DISAGREEMENT ON APPROPRIATENESS OF NOVEMBER MEETING, AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS, IN ANY CASE, UP TO THE COUNCIL TO DECIDE AND NOT THE COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITY.
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5. ON AGENDA ITEM 8, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORTED ON FAO MEETINGS AND, IN ADVANCE OF ANY EXPRESSION OF VIEW BY THE US, SAID IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO ESTABLISH A JOINT IWC/FAO COMMITTEE.

6. ON AGENDA ITEM 9, THE POINTS RAISED ABOUT OVER-OPTIMISM IN 1974/75 FORECAST ESTIMATES AT MARKETING SUB-

COMMITTEE MEETING ON OCT 8 WERE AGAIN RAISED AND AGREE-
MENT WAS REACHED THAT SOME ACCOUNT SHOULD BE TAKEN OF
TRADE AND OTHER UNOFFICIAL SOURCES WHEN WIDE DISCREPANCIES
OCCUR BETWEEN OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL FORECASTS. USDEL
POINTED OUT THAT THE SECRETARIAT WILL FIND IT VERY DIFFI-
CULT TO STRAY TOO FAR FROM OFFICIAL FIGURES. AUSTRALIAN
DELEGATE SAID THAT IMPORTING COUNTRIES MUST ALSO GIVE COM-
PREHENSIVE INFORMATION TO MAKE THE FORECASTING EXERCISE
WORTHWHILE.

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7. ON AGENDA ITEM 11, THERE WAS MUCH DISCUSSION ON
WHETHER TO LEAVE IN OR OMIT THE SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 39
OF THE DRAFT ABOUT THE INVITATION TO CHINA TO BE REPRESENTED
AT THE CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS. TO A SUGGESTION
THAT A SENTENCE OR FOOTNOTE SHOULD BE INCLUDED TO SAY
CHINA DID NOT TAKE PART, PORTUGUESE DELEGATE SAID THIS
WOULD IMPLY THAT THE IWC WAS SNUBBED. EXECUTIVE SECY
SUGGESTED SUGGESTED LEAVING THE SENTENCE OUT ALTOGETHER
BUT AUSTRALIAN AND ARGENTINE DELEGATES SAID IT SHOULD BE

LEFT IN AS A RECORD OF FACT WHILE BRAZILIAN DELEGATE
THOUGHT IT SHOULD REMAIN BUT INCORPORATED IN PARAGRAPH
40. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPEATED HE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE
THE SENTENCE OMITTED WHICH WAS AGREED ALTHOUGH AUSTRALIA
RESERVED ITS POSITION TO RAISE THE MATTER AGAIN.

8. OTHER BUSINESS SAW THE RAISING OF THE TREATMENT OF
TAIWAN IN IWC STATISTICS AND DOCUMENTS. IN THE ABSENCE
OF ANY RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR INSTRUCTIONS IN
LONDON 13192, USDEL ASKED THAT THE MATTER BE DEFERRED
UNTIL THE NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING AND FOR POSSIBLE DIS-
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CUSSION BY THE COUNCIL. THIS WAS AGREED.
DECON 10/10/75
ANNENBERG

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